

THE HONOLULU REPUBLICAN.

VOLUME I, NO. 130.

HONOLULU, H. T., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1900.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

FIRE AND EXPLOSION IN NEW YORK CITY

**Tarrant & Co.'s Drug
House Scene of
Disaster.**

TWO BLOCKS OF BUILDINGS BURNED

**GREAT LOSS OF HUMAN LIFE
IS FEARED, AND BODIES
BEING FOUND.**

Explosion Probably Due to Spontaneous Combustion in Chemicals—Bad Work of Finding the Dead.

NEW YORK, Oct. 29.—A fire which originated in the great drug house of Tarrant & Co., corner Warren and Greenwich streets, today, caused an explosion which shook the lower end of Manhattan island like an earthquake. It hurled a seven-story building into the air and set fire to two blocks of buildings, with a loss of life that is appalling.

The Tarrant building was completely filled with chemicals. In response to an alarm, one fire company had just arrived when a terrific explosion occurred and then the entire engine crew down the stairway. The firemen, realizing the danger of their position, rushed from the building to the street. The explosion had filled the street in front with a shower of falling glass and some debris, which sent the crowd which had gathered on the opposite sidewalk, Engineer Rockbury and Fireman Brown were injured by falling glass, as was another fireman belonging to the company.

Captain Devenney of the company ordered his crew back into the building again. They were dragging the line to the doorway for the second time when there came another explosion, more terrible than the first, and the whole crew was hurled across Greenwich street. Devenney was so badly injured that he was sent to a hospital.

In the meantime other engines that had responded to the alarm had collected and the firemen were busy rescuing people from surrounding buildings. Firemen had already taken many girls down the only fire escape upon the building and more persons had been carried down the escape of the Home Made restaurant next door, and the buildings adjoining upon Warren street.

The second explosion occurred about five minutes after the first. From the accounts of witnesses the building seemed to leap into the air, and in a moment masses of brick walls, timbers and stone were falling into the street. The force of the explosion tore away the walls of the big commission storehouses fronting on Washington street and caused them to collapse, falling all at once in a mass of timber, boxes and barrels, from which the flames, which burst out from the Tarrant building like the belching of a cannon, broke forth.

Across Warren street to the opposite buildings the flames leaped, setting them afire at once, the work of the explosion demolishing windows and all wooden structures about the houses.

In a moment Warren street was choked with a mass of debris and the whole place was aflame.

The great explosion was followed by half a dozen more, scarcely less intense, and by a countless number of smaller ones.

The explosion and fire together had now assumed the proportions of a great catastrophe and it was thought that hundreds of lives had been lost.

The second explosion carried destruction in every direction. That it did not cause wholesale loss of life was due to the fact that almost ten minutes' warning came after the first cry of fire and fully five minutes occurred between the first and minor explosions, which warned every one within hearing, and the second one.

Just after the outbreak of fire from the windows of the building a downtown-bound train stopped at the Warren street station of the Ninth avenue elevated road. It passed on in time to escape the explosion and the few people who were left on the platform of the station are all thought to have escaped.

The station master fled across the structure, carrying with him the receipts of the day and his mousie tickets, while two women who had stopped on the platform to watch the fire, frightened by the first explosion, fled down the downtown tracks in safety.

The big explosion completely carried away the station. Immense masses of masonry, pieces of cornice, great beams, window casings and an indescribable mass of wreckage of every description tumbled suddenly into the street in front of the building all at once. The force of the explosion below had thrown the firemen back across the street, so that they were not caught, but their escape from the rain of debris across the street was almost miraculous.

The wreckage was thrown across through the windows of the building in which the Irving National bank is, on the northeast corner of the street. The offices in the Irving bank and of Mecklen Brothers, bankers and brokers, were nearly wrecked.

Captain McKinley of the detective bureau, who hurried every available man on his staff to the fire, was appealed to to protect the funds of the bank, he being told that they were in the vault, the door of which was supposed to be unlocked. When the captain and his men went in, however, they found about \$10,000 scattered in confusion over counters

and doors. This was hastily thrown into the vault and the door was locked.

In Mecklen Brothers' offices in the basement there were H. H. Mecklen and his brother William, with Frank Heckenberry, a boy, Thomas Hackett, a clerk, and another man named Bruce and some girls, among them Ellen Vandeen and May Drenkemann. When the fire broke out \$900,000 in money lay upon the counter. Heckenberry was stationed at the door while this was gathered together for putting into the vault. The first explosion filled the place with sulphurous smoke that nearly asphyxiated everybody. The second explosion blew in the windows and cut the two Mecklens seriously. The boy, Heckenberry, found the two girls lying in a heap, faintly aware. They were carried to a place of safety. The others, when they came to their senses, gathered the money from the floor, put it in cigar boxes and carried it to safety.

As the result of the explosions a dozen buildings were blown down and a score of others badly damaged. The loss of life is not known tonight, but from all sources of information it is gathered there are perhaps the bodies of thirty persons in the ruins, though because of the hot debris and the slowness of the moving of it nobody had been removed up to midnight.

Chief Croker of the fire department said tonight that the loss is fully \$1,500,000.

Digging for the Dead.

NEW YORK, Oct. 31.—Only four bodies have been recovered from the ruins caused Monday by the explosion in the Tarrant drug house up to this morning. Of these only one body has been identified, that of August Schmidt. The three unidentified bodies were gathered piecemeal and never will be identified. The police claim that the portions of human anatomy found represent three bodies and that two of them were men and one a woman.

Early this morning a number of bones were found. Inspectors Trench and Kenney of the building department found a woman's head at the northwest corner of Greenwich and Warren streets. Later the same men found a package of tools, a man's apron and hat. Inspector Gault of the building department, while hunting through the ruins, found two pieces of human flesh and the same inspector found another piece of human flesh and a knee joint. Two tons of chloride of potash and one ton of sulphur, it appears, were in the building occupied by Tarrant & Co. when it was demolished by fire and explosions on Monday morning.

It has now been decided by Fire Chief Croker and Fire Commissioner Scannell to investigate all of the wholesale drug establishments in the city. Chief Croker said in the course of an interview:

"I know most of the wholesale drug houses carry explosives in such quantity as to render them powder magazines to all purposes. They are a constant menace to public safety and I propose to see that storage houses are maintained at a safe distance outside the city."

"In the past little attention has been paid to the requirements of the law. Experience in this case has proved an expensive teacher, but we will profit by this lesson."

Protracted litigation between insurance companies may ensue relative to the explosion in the ruined buildings. Many insurance companies deny their liability for the many insured windows which were shattered throughout the wrecked area in the downtown business section and their officials have refused large claims. They have referred patrons who suffered losses to the fire insurance companies. The latter have determined either not to pay or still have the matter under consideration.

BUSINESS MEN EXPECT

MCKINLEY'S ELECTION

**Colonel Soper Returns From an
Extended Tour of the States
—The Herald Estimate.**

"Nine out of ten of the business men whom I met in my travels in the States are confident that President McKinley will be re-elected," said Col. J. H. Soper, who returned yesterday from the Alameda.

"I do not claim to speak for the laboring class, for I did not see so much of them, but the business men, who are certainly in a better position to judge than I am, are very confident."

"Do you think McKinley will carry New York?" was asked.

"I do not say so of my own knowledge," replied the colonel, "but the people whom I met say that he will."

"You have seen the estimates of the New York Herald and San Francisco Call?" asked Col. Soper of the reporter.

"Well, those papers are in a far better position to speak than I am and their forecast is thought to be about right. The two forecasts were made in conjunction and are identical."

Col. Soper went from here to Victoria in the latter days of August. He went east by the Canadian Pacific to Toronto. He came back by New York, Chicago, St. Paul, Spokane, Portland and San Francisco. He remained in the last named city three weeks.

As Colonel Soper did not visit Washington he had not the opportunity to look personally after the matter of equipment for the National guard. He says he had a fine time on his trip and is glad to be home.

Alameda's Passengers.

Among the well known kanaimans returning in the Alameda yesterday were A. H. Afong, D. H. Case and wife, W. W. Goodale, F. D. Greany, W. G. Grief, F. L. Hoops, Mrs. W. L. Hopper, Miss Hopper, W. F. Johnston, T. R. Lucas, Mrs. W. Monsarrat, J. H. Soper and wife.

OFFICIAL RETURNS OF THE ELECTION

Parker's Plurality Two Hundred and Five—Legislature Divided Between Republicans and Democrats—Democrats Elect J. P. Makainai.

Parker's plurality as delegate to congress for the fifty-seventh session is just ten votes higher than the forecast in yesterday's Republican, 205.

The republicans did not maintain their vote on the senatorial ticket and therefore elected but four candidates—Achi, Cecil Brown, George Carter and Clarence Crable. Henry Waterhouse and Paha fell outside the breastworks. Kalamakani and Kanahe on the independent ticket beating them.

The republicans elected their entire representative ticket in the Fourth district—William Aylet, A. F. Gillfillan, W. H. Hoops, A. G. M. Robertson, Jonah Kunnala and J. H. K. Keiki.

In the Fifth district the democrats snatched from the political aggregation their one single brand, electing J. P. Makainai. The independents take the others, John Emmelhut, S. K. Mahoe, W. J. Mossman, John K. Prendergast and James K. Paole.

The official figures given herewith in tabular form give the result of Tuesday's election in detail.

The first returns to be handed in at the registrar's office were those of Waimanalo, at 7:40 o'clock.

The last came in at 11:45 from the Second precinct of the Fourth district. In this precinct 911 votes were registered and 822 were counted.

There will be no further count of the votes unless there is a contest.

Captain George Townsend of the schooner Eclipse, which arrived from Lahaina yesterday, took the trouble while there to get the returns of the election so far as he could before leaving. In the race for congress Wilcox was ahead up to the time the Eclipse sailed.

News of a big row in Wailuku during the election is reported, but what the trouble was about is not known. Follow-

ing are the returns as given to Captain Townsend:

For delegate to the 56th congress—
Prince David 199
Parker 372
Wilcox 386

For delegate to the 57th congress—
Prince David 216
Parker 372
Wilcox 384
Wailuku, the republican stronghold, and Lahaina, with thirty votes, yet to be heard from.

For senators—
Kahe 622
Baldwin 583
White 541
Cockett 490
Kepoiki 465
Reuter 336
Cornwell 285
Clark 249
Lyons 212

The above returns are as far as the count went on Maui up to sailing time of the Eclipse. Baldwin is a republican, Kahe and White independents.

For representatives—
Hibio (Ind) 179
Pali (Rep) 177
Beckley (Ind) 161
Hons (Rep) 146
Kawailoa (Ind) 136
Kaulimakaole 132
Kahamaelele, D. K. 130
Ahuli 127
Hayesden 115
Dickey 112
Kahalelele, D. H. 94
Long 92
Nui 90
Richardson 90
Nui 90
Pai Naki 69
Forsyth 69
Eldredge 20

This vote only shows the strength of

Lahaina, Honokohau, Kahului and Honouliuli. The following places are yet to be heard from: Lanai, Wailuku, Makawao, Hamakua, Kipahulu, Hana and Keanae.

Captain Tullett of the James Makee, which arrived from Kaula yesterday, says that the voting was going on in full blast when he left Kaula, about 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. At that time it seemed to Captain Tullett that Parker was the favorite on the Garden Isle and Niihau.

The Makee, which left last night, will return Friday with full returns.

The Congressional Vote.

4TH DIST. 56th Congress 57th Congress

Precincts. Parker Wilcox Parker Wilcox

First..... 202 54 152 211 53 152
Second..... 474 98 236 472 103 232
Third..... 77 73 138 77 73 140
Fourth..... 358 119 112 347 118 169
Fifth..... 156 78 193 161 85 205
Sixth..... 106 36 39 106 36 39
Seventh..... 7 8 18 7 8 18

5TH DIST. Precincts.

First..... 64 11 58 67 10 57
Second..... 45 25 121 47 19 125
Third..... 25 26 60 25 25 74
Fourth..... 32 32 28 32 33 27
Fifth..... 35 4 12 37 5 10
Sixth..... 102 27 106 99 28 105
Seventh..... 172 48 291 170 51 295
Eighth..... 124 37 196 127 34 192
Ninth..... 149 61 136 149 61 136
Tenth..... 65 49 78 63 48 79

Total 2193 786 1974 2188 785 1983

THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT.

Precincts.	Achi.	Brown, C. H.	Carter, G. B.	Crable.	Paha.	Waterhouse.	Ald.	Carter, J. O.	Kennedy.	Hobbs, J. D., Jr.	Isenberg.	Lullikani.	Boyd.	Kalamakani.	Kanahe.	Kaula.	Pua.	Kahe.	Hibio.
First.....	179	205	185	191	165	167	52	105	51	58	90	54	127	142	131	139	130	115	11
Second.....	396	479	421	453	362	349	101	216	99	137	188	66	217	236	216	225	220	185	17
Third.....	75	86	79	72	67	58	65	88	61	78	49	123	137	134	124	117	108	14	13
Fourth.....	281	333	306	351	258	237	123	204	112	185	188	78	114	118	105	100	103	100	12
Fifth.....	139	138	140	149	123	116	66	103	69	71	87	65	172	194	189	173	181	146	7
Sixth.....	77	109	91	110	68	77	41	62	39	44	65	16	24	27	24	22	25	31	3
Seventh.....	4	7	9	9	13	4	3	9	1	2	5	5	19	24	18	21	22	14	6
FIFTH DIST.	First.....	74	71	72	65	93	72	5	11	8	8	11	7	41	55	51	46	49	39
Second.....	55	63	49	43	59	37	18	31	23	21	15	17	112	125	118	111	113	94	13
Third.....	58	52	49	46	48	48	24	29	20	35	24	31	52	69	53	57	60	46	8
Fourth.....	41	28	34	29	30	25	23	29	15	26	21	24	29	40	34	31	33	22	4
Fifth.....	28	38	34	28	26	28	8	13	8	7	10	3	8	9	10	7	10	8	3
Sixth.....	73	76	73	72	59	91	26	75	14	27	66	13	100	137	130	101	122	105	9
Seventh.....	187	169	151	155	160	132	72	92	90	68	42	257	296	287	274	269	225	11	11
Eighth.....	144	119	98	118	110	88	54	55	41	48	39	32	157	179	178	177	192	141	3
Ninth.....	124	140	138	136	104	109	75	109	39	70	77	49	121	129	125	121	102	9	9
Tenth.....	82	62	55	54	53	33	48	78	38	74	50	41	71	76	68	75	76	66	3
Total	2017	2175	1984	2081	1708	1681	894	1309	755	936	1087	582	1734	1973	1871	1812	1845	1547	141

FOURTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

Precincts.	Ayotte.	Gillfillan.	Hoops.	Kahle.	Kunnala.	Robertson.	Booth.	Booth.	Camara.	McCarthy.	Spencer.	Wilcox.	Clark.	Kallikani.	Kalamakani.	Mohala.	Nikookuni.	Quinn.	Hibio.
First.....	182	187	182	178	167	184	61	51	53	93	32	66	137	139	146	120	125	151	12
Second.....	384	445	450	346	394	422	116	105	124	151	77	133	192	220	238	190	215	247	33
Third.....	73	74	80	66	66	72	94	73	75	85	45	74	108	123	140	125	113	130	16
Fourth.....	298	330	314	250	256	316	133	119	149	172	89	152	95	96	125	102	98	125	17
Fifth.....	124	140	146	104	132	135	73	68	92	69	39	172	190	201	173	185	201	21	21
Sixth.....	90	103	100	66	70	102	37	38	51	48	26	41	22	24	28	22	26	43	2
Seventh.....	3	7	5	6	6	4	6	3	4	9	2	2	17	22	25	19	20	17	18
Total	1154	1286	1277	1016	1091	1235	510	462	524	650	340	567	743	814	903	751	782	914	119

FIFTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

Precincts.	Coelho.	Hitchcock.	Johnson.	Kenneth.	Lane.	McDonald.	Brown.	Immon.	Harvey.	Holt, W. H.	Makainai.	Mossman, H. J.	Moore.	Mohala.	Mossman, Wm.	Tyler.	Prendergast.	Makainai.	Prendergast.
First...	54	58	60	63	64	54	12	17	11	16	32	10	45	38	10	50	49	44	10
Second...	48	39	47	48	47	38	24	27	25	23	122	25	122	123	17	114	97	103	8
Third...	43	43	48	43	41	32	30	30	20	30	85	18	69	86	29	62	41	53	4
Fourth...	32	27	31	30	28	28	18	32	24	27	51	26	28	40	10	33	9	32	5
Fifth...	26	25	20	28	31	35	16	21	11	9	14	10	11	6	1	10	6	7	3
Sixth...	54	68	64	72	93	94	59	78	51	29	105	24	96	97	18	123	83	119	11
Seventh...	135	169	141	142	146	143	67	118	106	75	298	76	244	248	19	244	243	264	20
Eighth...	161	119	118	100	111	104	34	71	71	37	188	51	167	168	16	157	165	153	9
Ninth...	99	118	111	121	110	118	74	118	75	66	149	37	128	115	16	118	115	111	42
Tenth...	32	50	78	67	50	46	61	81	57	41	110	55	78	73	3	80	66	84	5
Total	624	716	718	723	721	692	395	593	457	333	1172	342	988	1014	139	991	874	970	86